21. A fuel cell comprising a plurality of single cells, each of the single cells comprising a bridged polymer membrane obtained by the method as claimed in claim 11, and a pair of electrodes sandwiching the bridged polymer membrane.--

## **REMARKS**

The applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment be entered prior to fee calculation and examination. The applicants have rewritten claims 2-6 into proper U.S. form as newly added claims 8-12. Support for newly added claims 13 and 14 can be found in the original claims 3 and 4 respectively. Support for newly added claims 15 and 16 can be found in the specification at page 4, lines 4-8. Support for newly added claim 17 can be found in the original claim 4. Support for newly added claim 18 can be found in the specification at page 5, lines 11-14. Support for newly added claims 19 and 20 can be found in the specification at page 9, lines 11-14. Support for newly added claim 21 can be found in the original claim 7. No additional fee is required for the claims. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

A prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

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Ashley I! Pezzner

Reg. No. 35,646

Tel. (302) 888-6270

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